

Breast Milk Expression and Breast Milk Feeding for PUIs

Yale, Neonatology, March 2020

1. During separation, mothers who intend to breastfeed should be encouraged to express their breast milk to establish and maintain milk supply. A dedicated breast pump should be provided and cleaned between use.
2. Proper hand hygiene during expression, collection, and administration is critical.
3. The process should match what is done with other mothers on contact precautions. Milk containers should be tightly closed, and the exterior of the bottle and lid preferably disinfected with PDI wipes prior to labeling to avoid any potential ink removal from the disinfectant wipe.
4. Containers coming from postpartum/maternal special care should be placed in zip locked bags to avoid leakage during delivery.
5. Identification of known positive moms should be communicated from NICU staff to the milk room via mobile heartbeat.
6. If a COVID-19 positive mom is home and expressing milk with a healthy caregiver delivering milk to the hospital, the milk room will perform disinfection of bottles with PDI wipes upon receipt.
7. Milk will be separated by the milk room per standard procedure into patient specific bins. Milk bottles for positive moms will be stored in additional zip locked bag.
8. Milk from known COVID-19 positive moms will be preferentially left for last in a fortification batch to avoid cross contamination.